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## U.S., Russia Near Accord On A-Pact

The United States and the Soviet Union have moved a step closer to presenting in Geneva portions of an agreed, but incomplete, draft of a nuclear non-proliferation treaty, Administration officials said yesterday.

That was confirmed in the meeting of Secretary of State Dean Rusk and Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko in New York Tuesday night.

The two foreign ministers were carrying out the one point of specific accord announced from last week's summit meeting between President Johnson and Soviet Premier Kosygin. As the President expressed it last Friday, "We agreed that it is now very important to reach international agreement on a non-proliferation treaty."

Both nations had expressed the same position before the summit conference; what was unclear was whether the Middle East crisis would add any impediment.

Still lacking, however, is a precise American-Soviet agreement on just when the United States and the Soviet Union will put before the 17-nation disarmament conference at Geneva the portions of the treaty on which they have agreed. After the Rusk-Gromyko meeting, American officials expressed the belief that will be within the next week or so.

Missing from the anticipated draft, however, is agreement on the key point of controversy that has occupied months of negotiations. This is Article 3, specifying how the treaty will be policed to verify

that participating nations are complying with it. When and if agreement is reached on that between the Soviet Union and the United States and its European allies, there still remains the major task of getting such countries as India, Japan, West Germany and others to agree to exclude themselves from the privileged list of nations that can develop nuclear explosives.